

SAFE WORKING AROUND HV AREAS

WHAT?

Many Thames Water sites where GBM are active are working operational areas. These sites may have areas that contain High Voltage (HV). High Voltages are classed as greater than 1000v AC or 1500v DC. GBM are not to work in or on these HV areas and systems without the correct HV permits and limitations being in place from Thames Water.



WHY?

- **Avoid Risk of Electrocutation** : Use GBM's Safe System of Work.....its there to protect you.
- **Avoid Unintentional Disconnection of Process Plant** : May cause inconvenience to the public, regulatory fines and considerable cost to GBM & Thames Water.
- **Avoid Programme delays** : Investigation of incidents is costly and time consuming.

DO

- ✓ Carry out non intrusive surveys of the areas where HV cables or equipment may be present.
- ✓ Engage with your GBM electrical authorised person, M&E coordinator or Thames Water Senior Authorised Person if in any doubt as to voltages present.
- ✓ Show due care and attention when working adjacent to HV compounds.
- ✓ Do obtain a limitation of access or permit to work from Thames Waters SAP for all works on or around HV equipment.
- ✓ STOP WORK...If a cable or equipment cannot be identified positively then inform your supervisor or manager.
- ✓ Ensure barriers and signage are in place. Signs should state DANGER of DEATH.

DON'T

- ✗ DON'T assume that a verbal OK from Thames Water personnel is adequate authorisation to proceed with works.
- ✗ DON'T proceed with works on or in HV areas with ONLY a TWOSA or TOCOP.
- ✗ DON'T make assumptions that cables are dead.
- ✗ DON'T assume that just because the main feed to an area of work has been isolated that all cables are dead. Feeds from different switchboards or stored energy could be present.
- ✗ DON'T work outside the limitations of your permits or limitations of access.
- ✗ Whether LIVE or DEAD do not tamper with HV fences, compounds or structures without Thames Waters SAP documentation being in place.
- ✗ DON'T assume that record drawings are up to date and accurate.